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USE AND APPLICATION OF UNITED NATIONS STANDARDS AND NORMS IN CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Use and application of the declaration of basic principles of justice for victims of crime and abuse of power

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum

1. The present addendum summarizes additional views received from the Governments of Belarus, Canada, Spain and Tunisia concerning the draft manual on the use and application of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex).

2. Belarus stated that it had no observations on the draft manual.

3. Canada noted that the outline was very comprehensive, but that a manual that concentrated on basic issues would be better suited to meet the needs of both developed and developing countries. For example, the manual could focus on victim services programmes. There should be a greater explanation of the intent of the manual, and examples should be provided together with references to the particular States and legal systems concerned. The section providing details on best practices would probably be the most useful part, especially for States that were developing or reforming their services. Moreover, in the same section of the manual, the legal system of

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the State or jurisdiction concerned would need to be described in order to provide the proper context for the practice.

4. Spain indicated that the draft manual related to issues that were covered by its law 35/1995 of 11 December 1995.

5. Tunisia expressed its appreciation for the proposed draft manual. It suggested that the first chapter should specify that the available services should be adaptable to the actual needs of the victim. The creation of additional services, if necessary, should be envisaged. Pursuant to the Declaration, the third section of the manual should include an additional chapter on the material and social assistance that should be provided to victims.